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February 13, 2004

Mr. J. I. Palmer, Jr., Esq.
Regional Administrator
U. S. EPA, Region 4
Sam Nunn Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Re: Recommendations for PM 2.5 Boundary Designations

Dear Mr. Palmer:

At the request of Governor Mark Sanford and on behalf of the citizens of South Carolina I am pleased to report that our state fully complies with the annual and 24-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate matter greater than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter (PM 2.5). Accordingly, I am recommending that the entire state of South Carolina be designated as "attainment" for these standards. This recommendation is based upon verified air quality monitoring data for the 2001, 2002, and 2003 calendar years. South Carolina has an extensive monitoring network for PM 2.5. Additionally, the ongoing efforts at the national, state and local levels to reduce ground-level ozone and particulate matter precursors will further improve the air quality for our citizens.

Should you have any questions regarding our recommendation, please contact Renee Shealy at (803) 898-4299 or by email at shealyrg@dhec.sc.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert W. King, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Environmental Quality Control

cc: The Honorable Mark Sanford
Earl Hunter, Commissioner, SCDHEC
Scott English, Governor's Office
Jim Joy, Bureau of Air Quality